



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



Leonard C. Boyle
Commissioner of Public Safety

Colonel Edward L. Lynch
Deputy Commissioner, Division of State Police

For Immediate Release

04/18/05

MARIJUANA ARREST

Today at approximately 12:30 p.m. Connecticut State Police Trooper on patrol I-95 southbound observed an operator commit a motor vehicle violation and attempted to stop the violator. The violator vehicle attempted to elude the trooper and engaged the Trooper in pursuit. After short pursuit the Trooper was able to involve the State Police airplane that was on patrol in the area. The pursuit was terminated but the airplane continued the visual observation of the violator from the air and provided this visual information to the trooper. The pilot reported that the violator had exited southbound I-95 went behind a commercial establishment discarded duffle bags and re-entered I-95 northbound. The violator came upon construction traffic, which afforded the Troopers the opportunity to take the accused and the passenger into custody without incident. The duffle bags were recovered and contained 229 lbs of marijuana with an estimated value of \$1.2 million.

Both accused were transported to State Police Troop-G in Bridgeport where they were processed and held on \$1 million bond to appear in Superior court GA #22 Milford on 04/19/05.

ACCUSED: BECKFORD, James DOB: 4/27/59
349 Legion St apt 1F
Brooklyn, N.Y.

CHARGES: Possession over 1 kilo Marijuana
Possession Marijuana over 1 kilo with intent to Sell
Engaging in pursuit
Reckless Driving

ACCUSED: ALTON, Matthew DOB: 12/26/41
643 Vermont St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

CHARGES: Possession of over 1 kilo Marijuana
Possession of over 1 kilo marijuana with intent to sell

###END###

Sgt. J. Paul Vance

Sgt. J. Paul Vance
Tfc. Donna Tadiello
Tfc. William Tate

1111 Country Club Road
P.O. Box 2794
Middletown, CT 06457-9294
Tel: (860)685-8230/Fax: (860)685-8301